

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 987.141

be reinspected and recertified, as applicable.

[43 FR 28436, June 30, 1978, as amended at 47 FR 4489, Feb. 1, 1982; 47 FR 23417, May 28, 1982; 48 FR 176, Jan. 11, 1983; 51 FR 4478, Feb. 5, 1986; 52 FR 35530, Sept. 22, 1987; 53 FR 35994, Sept. 16, 1988; 56 FR 778, Jan. 9, 1991; 57 FR 61779, Dec. 29, 1992; 62 FR 7663, Feb. 20, 1997]

NOMINATIONS

§ 987.124 Nomination and polling.

(a) Date producers and producer-handlers shall be provided an opportunity to nominate individuals to serve on the Committee. For this purpose, the Committee shall establish a date and place for polling prior to June 15 of each even-numbered year and establish a procedure for casting absentee ballots. The date and place of polling shall be announced at least 6 weeks prior to the polling date by letters to all known date producers and producer-handlers and by Committee press releases to local newspapers and other news media in the date-producing area. Such letters and press releases shall: (1) Include the names of incumbents who are willing to continue serving on the Committee; (2) inform eligible producers and producer-handlers of the opportunity to propose additional names to be included on the nomination ballots; and (3) state when and where absentee ballots will be available. Additional names to be included on the nomination ballot must be received by the Committee at least 4 weeks prior to the polling date. Absentee ballots and instructions for completing and returning the ballots will be made available by the Committee at least 3 weeks prior to the polling date. Any person eligible to vote must request the ballot in person at the Committee's office or must submit a written request to the Committee for an absentee ballot. All ballots shall provide for write-in candidates and must be returned by the close of business on the polling date to be counted.

(b)(1) *Producers.* Each producer may vote for three producer members and three producer alternate members. No producer may vote more than once for any one person. The three individuals receiving the highest number of votes for the producer member positions

shall be the producer member nominees. Individuals nominated for producer member and failing to receive enough votes to become a producer member nominee shall have their names listed with those nominated for producer alternate members and the votes cast for them as member shall be counted with any votes they received for producer alternate member. The three individuals receiving the highest number of votes for the producer alternate member positions shall be the producer alternate member nominees.

(2) *Producer-handlers.* Each producer-handler may vote for one producer-handler member and one producer-handler alternate member, and these votes shall be weighted as provided in § 987.24. No producer-handler may vote more than once for any one person. The six individuals receiving the highest weighted votes for the producer-handler member positions shall be the producer-handler member nominees. Individuals nominated for producer-handler member and failing to receive enough votes to become a producer-handler member nominee shall have their names listed with those nominated for producer-handler alternate members and the votes cast for them as member shall be counted with any votes they received for producer-handler alternate member. The six individuals receiving the highest weighted vote for producer-handler alternate member positions shall be the alternate member nominees.

[43 FR 28437, June 30, 1978]

§ 987.138 Handlers of record.

Prior to handling dates, each person shall file CDAC Form No. 18 with the Committee at the times, and containing the information, prescribed in § 987.38.

[43 FR 28437, June 30, 1978]

INSPECTION

§ 987.141 Inspection and certification.

Each handler shall furnish, or cause the inspection service to furnish, to the Committee a copy of the inspection certificate issued to him on each lot of dates, and such certificate shall contain at least the following information:

(a) The date of inspection; (b) the name of the handler; (c) the lot number and the applicable outlet category set forth in § 987.112a; (d) the variety of dates and weight of the lot; (e) the number and type of containers in the lot; and (f) if the dates (1) are other than field-run dates, a certification as to the grade of the dates and whether or not they meet the applicable grade, size, container, and identification requirements, or (2) are field-run dates, a certification showing the percentage by weight, of sound dates in the lot, and whether or not they meet the identification requirements for such dates.

[43 FR 28437, June 30, 1978]

VOLUME REGULATION

§ 987.145 Withholding obligation.

(a) *Satisfying the withholding obligation.* Any handler may satisfy all or part of his withholding obligation for any variety of dates for which free and restricted percentages have been established by having an adequate quantity of that variety inspected and certified as meeting the applicable grade, size, and container requirements prescribed by the Committee for any approved restricted date outlet.

(b) *Credit for excess disposition in restricted outlets.* Disposition of marketable dates in restricted outlets in excess of a handler's withholding obligation may be: (1) Transferred pursuant to § 987.45 upon such handler filing a completed CDAC Form No. 14 with the Committee, or (2) credited to the handler's withholding obligation of the following crop year so long as the excess disposition exceeds 199 pounds. However, the quantity so credited shall never exceed 40 percent of the handler's withholding obligation of the crop year in which the excess disposition occurred and 100 percent of the withholding obligation incurred by him during October through December of the crop year following the crop year in which such excess disposition occurred. All such crediting or accumulation shall be contingent upon the Committee receiving, in due course, confirmation that the dates were disposed of in eligible restricted outlets. With respect to exports, the withholding credit shall be granted upon the Committee receiving

notification from the inspection service, and in due course a copy of the on board bill of lading or other documentary evidence satisfactory to the Committee.

(c) *FP dates.* Withholding obligations on FP dates shall be based on the weight of such dates when they are inspected and certified. However, if such dates are subsequently processed and packed within the area of production, the withholding obligation shall be adjusted to reflect any increase in weight.

(d) *Dates for deferment of withholding.* Any handler may defer his certification and withholding or disposition of restricted dates by pledging a comparable volume of graded or field-run dates as a surety that he will meet his withholding obligation at a later date. Such deferment shall not be effective until: (1) The handler files with the Committee a CDAC Form No. 12 to set aside graded dates or CDAC Form No. 13 to set aside field-run dates; and (2) the pledged dates are set aside as a lot and identified by the handler as "Restricted" and as "Graded" or "Field-Run", as appropriate, and as to the number of containers, the date of set-aside and whether or not the dates have been inspected. If the handler sets aside field-run dates or disposes of field-run dates in outlets prescribed in or pursuant to § 987.56 to obtain withholding credit for the sound date portion in the lot, the field-run dates shall meet the requirements prescribed in paragraph (f) of this section for eligible field-run dates, as determined by the inspection service.

(e) *Identification of restricted dates.* Any lot of restricted dates not immediately disposed of through exportation to countries approved by the Committee or directed to approved product outlets shall be stored as a lot separate from all other dates and in a specified location with a USDA inspection service tag marked "Restricted".

(f) *Field-run dates.* Field-run dates set aside for the purpose of deferring or meeting any part or all of a withholding obligation shall consist of at least 70 percent, by weight, of sound dates but may contain 10 percent, by weight, of cull dates of which not more than 5 percent may be hidden culls—